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MY GARDEN

AND
WHAT
TO
GROW



No. 72
FEBRUARY
1927



DAHLIA

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Type.

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DAHLIA

JUL 25 1927

U.S. Department of Agriculture

SEEDS AND SOWING.

By H. CHAS. STARKE, F.R.H.S.

February is not an ideal month for seed sowing—not in the Western Province. Here we expect heat and drought and south-easters and they are not helpful to young seedlings. But in spite of all this we must sow certain crops that are best sown now and the necessary precautions must be taken to give them a fair start in life.

On the farm such crops as Millet, Maize, Sorghum, Cowpeas, may be considered for green forage or for silage. For a grazing crop Sudan Grass and Rape are both useful at this time. In every case it will be necessary to select the situation carefully, for if there is insufficient moisture in the soil these crops will be a failure because we cannot rely upon rain falling at this season.

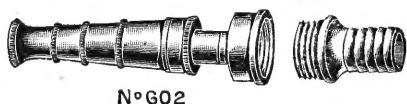
In the north all the above crops may be sown and many more if rains are favourable but there again the period remaining before frost must be considered. However, where conditions are favourable these crops grow very rapidly to the usable stage if green forage or silage is contemplated. For a grain crop it is surely too late for all of them.

There is one other crop which we have not mentioned but which is particularly suitable for sowing now. It is Thousand Headed Kale. Seed may be sown now on a well prepared seed bed to provide plants for setting out as soon as the early rains begin and they should give good pluckings of succulent leaves from about June onwards for perhaps twelve months or more.

In the **Vegetable Garden** the same principles apply but here a great deal more can be done if a suitable water supply is available. The principal crops to be sown will be Cabbage and Cauliflower. Perhaps you have plants of these ready by now and that will be better still because it will enable you to get an early crop when prices are likely to be most favourable.

Apart from the above, you may also sow the following Vegetables if conditions are favourable: Peas, French Beans, Beet, Carrot, Onion (early varieties), Radish, Swede, Turnip, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Kale, Kohl-Rabi, Cucumber (for late crop), Squash and Vegetable Marrow (for late crop), Lettuce, Spinach.

"MYSTO" SPRAY NOZZLE.



N°602

With connection for $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch Hose.

(When ordering please state size required).

The "Mysto" Hose Nozzle can be adjusted to give a fine, medium or coarse spray, and when not in use can be completely shut off.

When the straight stream is turned on a full volume of water is obtained. MN25 Price 4/6 each.

ZONALE GERANIUMS.

Price: in 4in. pots 1/6 each.

Amy Amphlett (Single).—White with pink tinge.

Attraction (Cactus).—Salmon, veined white.

Countess of Jersey (Single).—Clear coral-salmon.

Helen Kerrer (Cactus).—Splendid rose.

Judith Claudell (Double).—Salmon, very large trusses.

Mars (Single).—Crimson.

Nydia (Double).—Creamy white, rosy centre.

Venus (Single).—Purest white.

VEGETABLE TRANSPLANTS.

We give below a list of plants that we expect to have ready during this month. Some of these are now ready but others will not be ready till about the middle of the month or later. All orders are dealt with in rotation and will be despatched when the plants are ready. If you are unable to wait, please mark your order accordingly and we will send only what is ready, cancelling the remaining portion of the order.

Postage and packing charged extra at cost.

| | | Per 100 | 1000 |
|--|---|----------|------|
| Beet, | Early Blood Red ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Flat Egyptian ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| Brussels Sprouts | | ... 2/- | |
| Cabbage, | Cape Spitzkool ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Copenhagen Market ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Early Jersey Wakefield ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Green Globe Savoy ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Large Red Drumhead ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Large Oxheart ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Robinson's Champion Drumhead | 1/3 | 10/6 |
| Cauliflower, | All Seasons ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Gamtoos Glory ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Early Italian Giant ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Veitches Autumn Giant ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Late Italian Giant ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Woodside Early ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| Egg Plant, | New York Spineless (9d per doz.) | 4/- | |
| Kale, | Chou Moellier ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| ,, | Dwarf Curled ... | ... 2/- | |
| .. | Thousand Headed ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| Kohl-Rabi, | Early White Vienna ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| Lettuce, | Curled Neapolitan ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| .. | Woodside Giant Cabbage ... | 1/3 | 10/6 |
| Mangold, | Long Red ... | ... 1/- | 8/6 |
| Parsley, | Plain and Curled (6d per doz.) | ... 2/6 | |
| Sea Kale, | 3/- per doz. | ... 20/- | |
| Spinach Beet, | Yellow Cutting ... | ... 1/3 | 10/6 |
| Spinach, | New Zealand (6d per doz.) | ... 2/6 | |
| Peppermint, | Per doz. 1/-. (Special price for quantity on application). | | |
| Lavender (French), Marjoram, Thyme, Rosemary, | 3/- per dozen. | | |

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Where conditions are favourable you may sow the following Flower Seeds during this month: Althaea, Anchusa, Barberton Daisy, Calceolaria, Canna, Canterbury Bells, Carnation, Cineraria, Coleus, Cosmos, Cyclamen, Delphinium, Dianthus, Digitalis, Eryngium, Gerbera, Geum, Gypsophila, Hollyhock, Leptosyne, Mimulus, Nasturtium, Nicotiana, Pansy, Petunia, Phlox, Primula, Salvia, Scabious, Statice, Stocks, Sutherlandia, Sweet William, Thunbergia, Tropaeolum, Valeriana, Wallflower and Winter Flowering Sweet Peas.

BEDDING AND BORDER PLANTS.

We give below a list of plants that we expect to have ready during this month. Some of these are now ready but others will not be ready till about the middle of the month or later. All orders are dealt with in rotation and will be despatched when the plants are ready. If you are unable to wait, please mark your order accordingly and we will send only what is ready, cancelling the remaining portion of the order.

Postage and packing charged extra at cost.

| Miscellaneous | Price each | per doz | 100 |
|--|------------|---------|-----|
| Alternanthera Amabilis , pretty dwarf edging plant, red and green — 2/- 10/- | | | |
| Alternanthera Flavescens , yellow and green ... — 2/- 10/- | | | |
| Aquilegia , mixed — 2/- 10/- | | | |
| Arabis Alpina — 2/- 10/- | | | |
| Barberton Daisies , Hybrids ... 9d 5/- 40/- | | | |
| Begonia Rex , silvery grey leaves, with fringed edges and silver markings; in 4in. pots ... 2/- — — 6in. pots ... 3/- — — | | | |
| Bellis Perennis , Double Daisies ... — 1/- 5/- | | | |
| Calceolaria , yellow flowering, shrubby habit, in single tins 1/- — — | | | |
| Campanula Calycanthema (Cup and Saucer) ... — 2/6 — | | | |
| Canterbury Bells , single ... — 2/- 10/- | | | |
| Carnation , Riviera Market ... — 3/6 25/- | | | |
| Carnation , Border mixed ... — 2/6 17/6 | | | |
| Cobaea Scandens , in pots ... — 1/- — — | | | |
| Coleus , a fine selection of beautiful colours in 4in. pots 1/- — — | | | |
| Coreopsis Grandiflora — 1/- 5/- | | | |
| Delphiniums , Blackmore and Langdon's Strain ... — 5 - — | | | |
| Gaillardia , Perennial — 2/- 10/- | | | |
| Geum Coccinum , Mrs. Bradshaw 4d 2/- 10/- | | | |
| Gloxinia s, in 4in. pots 1/6 — — | | | |
| Helenium , Riverton Gem — 1/- — — | | | |
| Impatiens , brick red, flowering in 4in. pots ... 1/- — — | | | |
| Iris Germanica , white and purple varieties ... 4d 2/6 17/6 | | | |
| Ivy-Leaved Geraniums , in variety ex. 4in. pots ... 1/- 9/- — | | | |
| Leptosyne Maritima — 1/- 5/- | | | |
| Lobelia , Crystal Palace — 1/- 5/- | | | |
| Marigold , French — 1/- 5/- | | | |
| Mirabilis Jalapa , Marvel of Peru, in pots ... 1/- — — | | | |
| Pansy , mixed — 1/- — — | | | |
| Primula Obconica , mauve and pink, in 4in. pots ... 1/- — — | | | |
| Portulaca — 1/- 5/- | | | |
| Salvia Splendens , scarlet (bedding) 6d 3/6 25/- | | | |
| Salvia Farinacea , sky blue 6d 3/6 25/- | | | |
| Statice Bonduelli — 1/- 5/- | | | |
| Statice Latifolia — 3/6 — | | | |
| Statice Sinuata , Mixed — 1/- 5/- | | | |
| Stocks , mixed — 1/- 5/- | | | |

NOTES FOR FEBRUARY.

Stocks and How to Grow Them.

By C. G. STARKE.

To get really good results from most varieties of Stocks the seed must be sown during February at the latest, in fact young plants set out during this month would be even better. Under most conditions to wait until the Winter rains commence before sowing the seed is likely to give very disappointing results. There are situations, such as a particularly well-drained spot against an East wall, where good results will be obtained at almost any time.

Before we go further it is essential that we stress the importance of drainage in regard to the growing of Stocks which are to flower during the wet Winter months, otherwise the result of three months' careful attention may be lost in as many days.

Stock plants have few roots except a main tap root which penetrates the soil to a depth of from two to three feet, thus if, when the heavy rains set in, the water table rises above this level the main feeding roots become submerged and rot, when the fine healthy plants of a week before turn yellow and die.

There are many gardens without a square yard of ground in which the water table does not rise to above this level in Winter, so if Stocks are to be grown it is necessary to trench the soil to a depth of 3 ft., fill each trench with oak leaves or other garden refuse and if possible a good supply of stable manure. This should raise the soil at least a foot above the surrounding level thus giving an additional 12in. of soil.

Sowing the Seed.—To get a good percentage of doubles in your Stocks it is essential to germinate as many of the seeds as possible, it is unfair to treat your seeds badly, germinating only the most virile which are most likely to be single, and then blame your seedsman because you get no doubles.

First thoroughly wet the bed in which the seeds are to be sown, then dig the ground to a depth of about 18in. and allow the hose to run on it until the water no longer drains away. The following day, if the soil is of a sandy nature, turn the surface soil and rake as level as possible. By means of a piece of wood 2in. x 2in., the length of which should equal the width of the seed bed, make depressions about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep and 6in. apart. Sow the seed thinly in these drills and cover with a sandy loam, keep the bed moist until the seed germinates after which they should not be watered too frequently, gradually hardening them off until they are ready to transplant.

Transplanting.—The ground must be thoroughly delved and given a good dressing of stable manure, bone meal and lime. Do not select the strongest—plant as they come from the seed bed. Discard any extra strong or particularly weedy plants. 18in. apart each way or 12in. apart in rows 18in. apart are suitable distances. See that the soil has been well moistened before transplanting after which each plant should be given a small quantity of water. Do not worry if the plants flag during the heat of the day for the first week or so, they will soon recover.

Cut worms are likely to destroy many of the transplants after they have been set out, so that it is best to leave some plants in the seed bed to fill up the gaps.

If however the ground has been kept free of weeds for some time previous to transplanting little trouble need be expected.

Once the plants have established themselves it is quite unnecessary to continually water them, they will be found capable of withstanding plenty of drought and lack of moisture will encourage a good root system.

Green-fly and cabbage moth may be troublesome about April, dust with "Capex" Tobacco Dust or spray with Tobacco Extract. Keep the soil thoroughly mulched between the plants. Do not encourage them to grow excessively until the first rains set in when they will make rapid growth and should commence flowering about May, continuing throughout the Winter and following Summer.

CARNATIONS.

All varieties 3d. less when included in a dozen.

Packing and Postage: 2/- per dozen, 1/9 per $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen, 1/6 per $\frac{1}{4}$ dozen or less. This includes box, packing and postage within the Union of South Africa. To other parts the difference in postage will be added.

| | Price each |
|---|------------|
| Baroness de Brienen (Perpetual).—Salmon-pink ... | 2/- |
| Belle Washburn (Perpetual).—Brilliant red ... | 2/- |
| Beta , 1921 (Perpetual).—Deep violet mauve ... | 2/- |
| Bona , 1920 (Perpetual). Bright salmon pink ... | 2/6 |
| Brilliant , 1919.—Brilliant scarlet ... | 2/- |
| Dora (Perpetual).—Clear salmon-pink ... | 2/- |
| Edward Allwood (Perpetual).—Bright orange-scarlet ... | 2/6 |
| Eleanor (Allwoodi). Pure white with deep crimson-purple centre, very large ... | 1/6 |
| Flush of Dawn (Perpetual Border). Beautiful shell-pink prettily marked a deeper shade, large bloom, strong calyx which seldom bursts ... | 2/- |
| Jean (Allwoodi). White with violet centre, flowers produced in large trusses ... | 1/- |
| Maud (Allwoodi). Pale pink ... | 1/- |
| Mrs. Hamilton Fellowes , 1920 (Perpetual). Light purple, large blooms, good grower, one of the best of its colour ... | 2/- |
| Nora West , 1916 (Perpetual). Deep silvery salmon-pink ... | 2/- |
| Regina , 1911 (Perpetual). Large salmon-pink, strongly scented, stems long and strong ... | 2/- |
| Sheila Greer , 1921 (Perpetual).—Yellow ground, striped red ... | 2/- |
| Rosette , 1912 (Perpetual) Cerise ... | 2/- |
| Saffron , 1916 (Perpetual). A clear yellow sport of "Sunstar" | 3/- |
| Vera (Perpetual). Rose-pink ... | 2/6 |
| Violet Vivian (Perpetual).—Delicate light purple ... | 2/6 |
| White Enchantress , 1907 (Perpetual). A pure white sport of the old favourite "Enchantress" ... | 2/- |
| Wivelsfield Apricot , 1920 (Perpetual).—Light apricot, deeper towards the centre ... | 2/6 |
| Wivelsfield Claret (Perpetual).—Delightful claret shade ... | 2/6 |

SOME USEFUL SHRUBS.

Acalypha Marginata.—These hardy foliage plants have bronze leaves with scarlet markings. In 4in. pots 1/- each

Lantana Salvifolia.—Dwarf shrub, hardy, has mauve verben-a-like flowers. In 4in. pots 1/- each

Swainsonia.—A pretty perennial shrub now in bloom, white and pink pea-like flowers. In single tins 1/6 each

Bignonia Grandiflora Rubra.—Beautiful deciduous climber, clusters of salmon-red trumpet-shaped flowers in bloom now.

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Large specimens | 5/- each |
| Smaller specimens | 3/6 each |

MESEMBRIANTHEMUMS.

Price: All varieties 3/6 per doz. or 6d each. Assorted dozens at the dozen price.

Starred varieties can be supplied in quantity at 20/- per 100.

Creeping Yellow.

Crimson Glow* (Creeping).—Brilliant colour, somewhat variable, very pretty.

Dazzler* (Upright).—Brilliant dazzling mauve, tall grower, makes a large bush.

Enchantress (Upright).—Silvery pink

Joyce (Dwarf Upright).—A lovely soft mauve flower with long petals.

Mauve Queen (Upright).—Mauve with a pink tinge, brilliant colour, yellow eye.

Orange Beauty (Upright).—Large flower, 2 to 3 in. across, very fine.

Sparkling Gem (Creeping).—Cerise, a pretty creeping variety with sparkling leaves as though covered with dew drops.

White Fleece (Creeping).

White Queen (Dwarf Upright).

FUCHSIAS.

Plants of the varieties listed below are now ready but please name a second choice whenever possible in case some may be sold out before your order reaches us.

All varieties 1/3 each, 12/- doz. (out of pots).

A. Henkel. Dark foliage, scarlet, long tube, single.

Amelia Auban. Single, tube and sepals white, corolla scarlet.

Amorette. Tube and sepals bright red, corolla single, violet-rose.

Beauty. Corolla plum-purple, tube and sepals rosy red, single.

Berlinerkind. Good double white of medium size.

Clio. Coral-pink, dark foliage.

Guy Dauphine. Sepals clear crimson, corolla carmine and plum, double.

Julius. Scarlet tube and sepals, blue corolla.

Leonardo de Vinci. Sepals crimson, corolla large, double, rich purple.

Louis Faucon. Equally as fine as Phenomenal.

M. E. Vaucher. Scarlet tube and sepals, purple and blue corolla

Molesworth. Very fine double white, red sepals.

Phenomenal. Scarlet tube and sepals, blue corolla.

Prince of Wales.

Sunray. Beautiful variegated foliage, single.

T. Bonstedt. Sepals green-tipped, petals salmon, corolla a darker shade, long tube.

Van Dyke.—Scarlet sepals, blue corolla, double.

Velasquez. Sepals deep carmine, corolla double white veined carmine.

Vintcent A. Indy. Tube and sepals scarlet, corolla purple, double, very large.

White Queen. Long tube and sepals, white shaded mauve, corolla vermillion shaded rose.

HELIOTROPE.

All varieties 1/3 each (out of pots).

Beauty of the Boudoir. Dark purple, white centre.

White Lady.

Swanley Giant. Deep purple, massive heads, very fine.

"NORCROSS" HAND GARDEN CULTIVATORS.



No. 55 Hand Cultivator.

Five Detachable Spring Steel Prongs with forged Shovels—attached to Malleable Head with (4) standard $\frac{1}{4}$ in. bolts.

Malleable Ferrule (with handle) can be disconnected, and by use of **Norcross** Universal Connection (supplied extra when desired), the Cultivator head can be attached to standard makes of wheel plows. (An exclusive **Norcross** feature—patented).

Handle, finest quality, 4 feet long, waxed and belted finish, richly labeled.

Metal Parts Black, with Silver bronzed shovels.

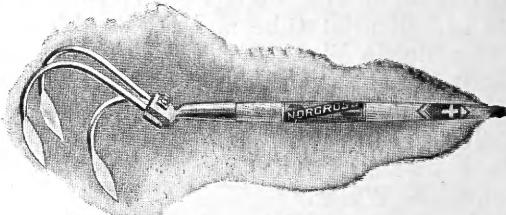
Price 5/3 each.

No. 33 Hand Cultivator.

A modification of the 5-prong, in size, weight and price, with same quality and finish.

Has 4ft. high grade handle, 3 Detachable Steel Prongs, and weighs only 2 lbs.

Cultivates between very narrow rows, is light enough for women who garden, and costs no more than the common hoe. Price, 4/- each.



No. 11 Midget Weeder.

Same Construction, Quality and Finish as the 3-prong Cultivator-Hoe, but smaller, has 9in. handle.

Designed for cultivating Gardens, Flowers, Small Shrubbery, etc., where close hand work is required. It is supplied at a low price and outclasses all other cheap malleable weeders. Its weight is only 12 ounces. Price, 2/6 each.

